

Message Text

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13
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 NIC-01 OMB-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /119 W
----- 023873

R 071001Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8214
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS,PINT,ID
SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF BANDUNG RIOTS

REF : JAKARTA 9433

1. GOVERNMENT SOURCES CONFIRM THAT AUTHORITIES ARE CLOSELY MONITORING DOMESTIC PRESS TREATMENT OF BANDUNG RIOTS TO HELP PREVENT SPREAD OF DISORDER. NEVERTHELESS COVERAGE THUS FAR FAIRLY COMPLETE AND ACCURATE. ON AUGUST 6 ONLY ONE JAKARTA DAILY (FORMERLY SOCIALIST PEDOMAN, NOW CONTROLLED BY STATE OIL COMPANY PERTAMINA BUT STILL TAKING INDEPENDENT LINE ON MOST ISSUES) CARRIED LOW-KEY STORY WITH MAIN DETAILS OF RIOTING.

2. ON SAME DAY (AUGUST 6) MINISTER OF
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INFORMATION MASHURI MET WITH REPORTERS AND

ISSUED TERSE REPORT STRESSING THAT ORDER RESTORED IN BANDUNG AND PROMISING FIRM GOVERNMENT ACTION AGAINST PROVEN DISTURBERS OF PEACE. STATEMENT IDENTIFIED PEDICAB DRIVERS AND LONG-HAIRED YOUTH AS PRINCIPAL PERPETRATORS, AND SAID AUTHORITIES HAD SUCCEEDED IN ARRESTING SEVERAL "INSTIGATORS" AND "MANIPULATORS" IMPLYING (BUT NOT CLARIFYING) POSSIBILITY OF COORDINATED SUBVERSIVE EFFORT.

3. ON AUGUST 7 MOST PAPERS PLAYED STORIES BUILT AROUND MASHURI STATEMENT, WITH SOME ADDITIONAL DETAILS. INDEPENDENT INDONESIA RAYA BROKE RANKS WITH MUCH MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT (STILL SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE) AND FRONT-PAGE PHOTOS OF LOOTING MOBS, BURNING CARS AND PLUNDERED SHOPS. LIMITED EDITORIAL COVERAGE THUS FAR FOLLOWING PREDICTABLE LINES. BOTH INDONESIA RAYA AND KOMPAS OBSERVE THAT RIOTING PROVES NEED FOR MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND MORE ATTENTION TO GRIEVANCES OF "ECONOMICALLY WEAK" GROUP, I.E., NON-CHINESE, ESPECIALLY SMALL MERCHANTS. RAYA NOTED THAT IT HAS REPEATEDLY WARNED OF DANGERS OF "CUKONGISM" (CORRUPT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POWER WIELDERS AND CHINESE FINANCIERS) AND OBSERVED THAT IN OVERHEATED ATMOSPHERE RESULTING FROM GROWING GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR, IT IS AN EASY MATTER TO INCITE INCIDENTS SUCH AS THIS.
TOUSSAINT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MINORITIES, PREJUDICE, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JAKART09434
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730854/aaaabniy.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 JAKARTA 9433
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <17-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS COVERAGE OF BANDUNG RIOTS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ID
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005